

may even seem that no man has found him out or that he has lost nothing of the respect of his fellows; yet he hates and despises himself and, soon or late, he or his name sinks to the level which belongs to his type. Retributive justice sometimes seems to halt, to limp, to crawl, even to pause for long; but the certainty of it is fascinating. "Time is the essence of all things," and time is nature's tither; slow, sure, safe, inexorable. Live so that "you may look any man in the eye and tell him to go to hell," may sound a bit harsh in sensitive ears; but it is mighty true and mighty good philosophy, and if you do, you need not worry about the other fellow; nature and time will tend to his case.

A number of instances of outbreaks of smallpox having their origin in some case of varioloid, mistakenly diagnosed as chickenpox, have come to our attention. Repeatedly has the

VARICELLA OR VARIOLOID. JOURNAL urged the significant danger in the steady increase of smallpox in this State; again must the warning be uttered. Give the most minute attention to every case of apparent varicella and preferably notify the health authorities at once, so that the most careful examination may be made and the possibility of establishing a focus of variola infection eliminated. To ignore the slightest precaution in these cases is to play dangerously with fire; and to light up an epidemic of smallpox in this twentieth century, would be a lasting disgrace to our profession. There is a great deal of varioloid or mild smallpox in the state and it is very easily, and not infrequently, mistaken for varicella; occasionally with disastrous results to many people. Let us err rather on the side of too much caution than too little.

A pharmacist in Los Angeles recently wrote a letter to a physician in that community commenting wisely upon a prescription written by the said physician which had come to his drug store to be filled.

THE HARM WE WORK.

Why do not more pharmacists write to the physicians whose prescriptions they fill, calling attention to the injury done the pharmacist by the careless use of proprietary preparations? It is only through enlightenment that physicians can learn the harm they are working through their ignorance of actual facts and existing conditions, and the pharmacist can give this information more easily, more surely and more frequently than can any other. We very gladly print Mr. Fulton's letter and we trust that he and other pharmacists will continue this good work. It is a shame that members of our profession have been so hoodwinked by the skillful lies of the manufacturers of proprietary mixtures that they have been led into doing so great harm to the profession of pharmacy. It is not merely the monetary hardship which we work upon the pharmacist—though that is bad enough—but we sink him to the level of the merely mechanical paster

of labels or wrapper of packages of "ready-to-wear" medicines. We have a board of pharmacy working to raise the standard of pharmacists; we have a medical profession working to sink the pharmacist to the level of the mechanical shop clerk who but hands out ready-made packages. Letters of just this sort will be of the greatest value, for they call the attention of the individual physician to some one specific case, and in time they will have their effect.

And now comes the newest of our states—Oklahoma—bearing gifts and olive branches in its hands and presents to the family of state medical organization journals our youngest born. With June is issued Volume I Number I of the

Journal of the Oklahoma State Medical Association. We regret to note that it contains the advertisement of glycothymoline, a preparation which was given two years to set itself right before the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry—and did not attempt to do so. Such preparations are intended for general public consumption and self-doping, and the medical profession is merely used in the first instance to introduce the stuff and exploit it at the cost of the lay public. If you doubt the truth of this, just go to the nearest drug store and ask to see an *original package* of the preparation in question. Do not content yourself with merely looking at the label on the sample package which the manufacturer will gladly send you, but consult the label on the original trade package. You will there learn things that will doubtless surprise you; a most extensive list of diseases will there be found, and of course glycothymoline will cure them all. Oklahoma, go back and begin right. Cut out the unholy alliance between our profession and the lies and frauds of the nostrum man. Depend upon the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry which, please remember, is the only institution in the world to which the medical man can go asking for the truth about materia medica preparations, and be sure of getting it. Don't believe anything that any manufacturer tells you, unless the Council says that the manufacturer is telling the truth. There is not one of them that has not, deliberately or inadvertently (and that is giving them the benefit of the doubt) lied to our profession and misstated either the composition of some of its wares or their active value. You cannot depend upon your own judgment, for you do not know enough to judge; you cannot depend upon the statements of the manufacturers, for they are all interested in but one thing—selling goods; and they have all told us—what was not the truth. The transmutation of metals is child's play in comparison with the wonderful changes which the manufacturer can produce in the action of well known drugs and chemicals, merely by means of a lie on the label. Do not let the published-for-profit medical (?) journals fool you into thinking that there is anything back of this movement except a desire to get the truth—the real, plain, ordinary, simple garden truth.